THE IBIS.

SEVENTH SERIES.

No. XVIII. APRIL 1899.

XIII.—*Notes on the Birds of North-west Fohkien**.

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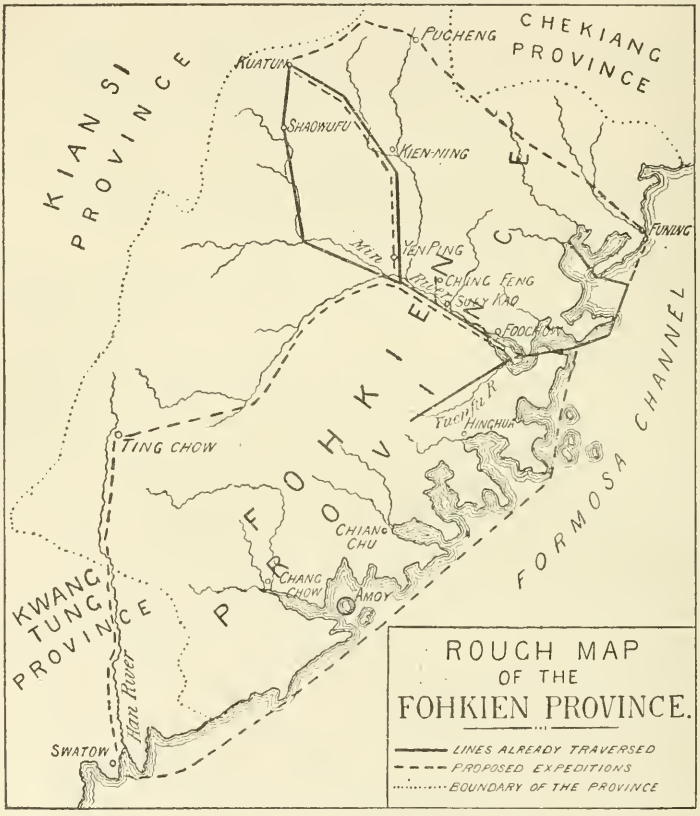
Monsieur l'Abbé Armand David was the first naturalist to visit Kuatun, a hamlet situated in the Bohea Mountains in the N.W. of Fohkien. He spent 52 days (from the 10th of October to the 1st of December, 1873) in that interesting locality, and, although prostrated by sickness during the greater part of his stay, managed to make extensive and valuable collections of the fauna of N.W. Fohkien. The most notable of his discoveries were the curious *Typhlomys cinereus*; the huge rat *Mus edwardsi*, and another large rat lately described under the name of *Mus latouchii*; and the three beautiful birds, *Ianthocincla berthemyi*, *Pomatorhinus swinhoii*, and *Trochalopteron milni*. He also re-discovered Cabot's Tragopan, now known to inhabit the high wooded mountains of N.W. Fohkien.

Since Père David's time no attempt had been made to explore the Bohea Mountains until November 1895, when Mr. Rickett and I, thinking Kuatun might be reached from Foochow, sent our collector Wang Wang, with some of his family, on an expedition up the river, instructing him to get to Kuatun if possible. The results of this trial trip

* For former papers on this subject see Ibis, 1892, pp. 400–430 477–503; 1894, pp. 215–226; 1896, pp. 489–495; 1897, pp. 169–176, pl. iv., pp. 600–610; 1898, pp. 328–333.

were satisfactory. In the following April, Wang Wang, with another collector, Chunkai, started again for Kuatun and came back in June, after a month's stay in the mountains. This time the collection was so good, and the novelties proved so interesting, that a third expedition in the autumn of 1896 and a fourth in the spring of 1897 were sent,



with equally successful results. To verify the statements of our men, and to complete, as much as possible, the exploration of the Kuatun Mountains, a fifth expedition was arranged. This time my wife, myself, the two collectors Wang Wang and Chunkai, and a trustworthy and faithful Chinese servant composed the party. Our plan was to go up the

north branch of the River Min to Wu Yi Shan, walk from there across country to Kuatun, and, after some weeks' stay in the mountains, go down to Shaowufu and return by the western branch of the Min. This was the route followed by our collectors on the previous three trips. The river journey from Foochow to Wu Yi Shan is about 250 miles, from Wu Yi Shan to Kuatun over the mountains about 40 miles, from Kuatun to Shaowufu about 45 miles, and from Shaowufu to Foochow 260 miles.

We left Foochow on the 12th March, 1898, in a large rapid-boat, hired and fitted out for us by Mr. Rickett, who, together with Mr. F. W. Styan, had lent or otherwise provided us with everything we were likely to want during our trip. The journey up river was uneventful; the city of Yen Ping was reached in four days, and Kien-ning, the next large city on the way, was passed on the 18th March. The scenery from Shuikow (70 miles above Foochow) to Kien-ning was, as a rule, fine, the river flowing through a mountainous and well-wooded country. Rapids were frequent and often difficult and dangerous, but as our boat was not deeply laden they were passed without accident. From Kien-ning to Wu Yi Shan the country appeared much less wooded than further south. The higher hills were often at some distance from the river, while those near the stream were mostly low and bare; but fine woods were common along the flat river-banks, and fringes of leaf-shedding trees extended along the shores for miles at a stretch.

Wu Yi Shan was reached on the 24th March. While waiting for the carriers to come down from Kuatun, we spent three days in visiting the strange and interesting Wu Yi hills. Part of two afternoons was devoted to the temples, and in a magnificent wood, swarming with birds, on the lower slope of Wu Yi Shan, we specially noticed Nuthatches, three species of Woodpeckers, Bulbuls, Cettias, "Huamei," and Pigeons.

We spent a day on the river in visiting the Wu Yi gorges, and, as no boats were to be had, we hired one of the bamboo

rafts in use on this part of the river. This we transformed into a fairly comfortable craft for my wife, by making fast a bath-tub on its shaky and half-submerged surface, while a couple of low stools furnished one of the collectors and myself with seats, and on this somewhat rickety concern we poled up the gorges. Fortune, in his 'Tea Countries of China and India,' has described Wu Yi Shan, its geology and botany, but he does not seem to have navigated the beautiful stream that winds through this truly wonderful mass of quaint-shaped hills. The scenery as viewed from our raft was simply enchanting. The water was of a bright emerald-green, and deep pools were not uncommon, while the frequency of shallow rapids added to the interest of the excursion. Tall perpendicular rocks, with joss-houses perched high overhead in seemingly inaccessible places, towered over us, and at every turn of the stream we had charming views of the pinnacles, mushroom-heads, and other curious shapes into which these hills are cut up. We saw several interesting birds. Kestrels were circling round the top of a cliff, on the face of which a square-cut hole was pointed out as the last resting-place of the head of some rebel abbot. Game appeared to be common, and we flushed several Ring-necked Pheasants on the river-bank. The pretty and familiar Water-Robin (*Rhyacornis fuliginosa*) was also common, and we saw Dippers, an Osprey, and *Ceryle guttata*. We proceeded for some miles up the gorges; then, as the sun began to sink, we turned back and swept rapidly down, past the ruins of the Devil's bridges, round the foot of Wu Yi Kung's precipice, then past the slender "Three Sisters," and lastly along the base of temple-studded Wu Yi Shan, and our simple-minded Charon brought us back to our boat delighted with the day's outing, and regretting that we had so short a time to spend in this fairyland of South China.

We left Ling Kung Kow towards 8 A.M. on the 28th March, and for the first few miles the road led over the Wu Yi hills. The town of Hsing Ts'un, a busy tea-market, was traversed without accident, and for some hours we travelled over level ground, and afterwards over low and

more or less bare hills. In the afternoon we entered the Bohea Mountains, and for the rest of the day walked up steep, narrow valleys in a north-westerly direction. Late in the day the scenery became very beautiful, the mountains being high and well wooded in many places. At 6.30 P.M. we reached some houses by the roadside, where we put up for the night. The aneroid here marked only 1800 feet—we had done 55 li (about 20 miles) according to the natives. The filth of our lodging was somewhat disheartening, and early next morning we left this abominable place with pleasure. This day's march was very trying, the road being rough, and we had to climb up three very steep and rather high passes. The scenery was again very fine. Forest covered the mountains, human dwellings were few and far between, and we were at last in really wild country. Towards 5.30 P.M. we entered the valley below Kuatun, and an hour's climb brought us up to the village. The Mission-house, a wooden building, fairly comfortable, but rather airy, had been lent to us by Mgr. Masot, Vicar Apostolic of North Fohkien; and in the upper story of this historic residence, in which Père David had spent two trying months 25 years ago, we settled down, and, having engaged hunters, we started work.

Kuatun, as described by Père David ('Journal de mon 3me Voyage,' vol. ii. p. 258), is a small hamlet built on the steep slope of one of the highest mountains of these parts, named by us Mount David after the Abbé. The village is about 3500 feet above sea-level, the mountain rising some 3000 feet above it. Five large straggling houses compose the hamlet. The inhabitants number 37 adults and 16 children, nearly all of them descendants of Catholic emigrants from Kiangsi, driven no doubt to these wild mountains by the persecutions of the last century. A smaller hamlet, consisting of three scattered houses, is situated further up the road in a high valley (alt. about 4500 feet). It is called Shang Kuatun (Upper Kuatun). The inhabitants of these two hamlets are all sturdy, independent-minded mountaineers. They are industrious, intelligent, and honest, but grasping to an incredible extent. Our hunters, however, notwithstanding

their innate rapacity, proved always accurate in the information they gave me on the natural history of the country, never once attempting to deceive me with false statements. One or two of them were first-class field-naturalists.

Since Père David's visit, the conditions of the country about Kuatun have been altered; the hamlet is no longer surrounded by thick forest, and for some years the slopes above and near the village have been planted with tea and bamboo. Thus the rarer forest-loving birds, that formerly were often seen close to the village, have retired to the undisturbed woods, and the hunters are now obliged to walk over miles of difficult country to find what, 25 years ago, could be obtained a stone's throw from Kuatun. The common necessaries of life are still just as difficult to procure as ever. The mountains produce only tea, bamboo, a little Indian corn, and the few coarse vegetables grown about the village are barely sufficient for the needs of the inhabitants. A few pigs, chickens, and dogs are the only domestic animals—cattle, goats, cats, ducks, geese, and pigeons being unknown. Rice and all other provisions have to be brought from places a day's journey or more lower down.

We remained 51 days at Kuatun, and the weather during most of our stay was miserably wet. Only about 14 days altogether were free from rain, nearly all the fine weather occurring about the middle of April. The temperature during the twenty days' rain in that month was generally very low, the thermometer indoors seldom showing more than 50° Fahr. In May there was a marked rise of the temperature, but we had almost daily rains and thick mists. It appears that this was an unusually wet season; but, so far as we could make out, it rains at Kuatun during at least six or seven months of the year. The autumn months are fine, but in the winter there is plenty of snow and ice.

Broadly speaking, the country may be roughly divided into four classes of land :—1st, the cleared ground; 2nd, the forest; 3rd, the grasslands; and lastly, the stunted damp

forest on the top of Mount David. The cleared country covers a comparatively small area, consisting of tea- and bamboo-plantations. These occur in the valleys and on some of the more accessible mountain-slopes, the highest Kuatun tea-plantation being about 5000 feet above the sea-level. The bamboo-plantations and the tea-fields of Upper Kuatun are the favourite breeding-haunts of *Suthora webbiana, Cettia sinensis, Oreicola ferrea,* &c. Virgin forests clothe all the steeper mountain-sides where not cleared, from the bottom of the glens often to the mountain-tops, where they meet the grass-country. Some of these forests grow on such rapid inclines that they are quite unfrequented, except by the more adventurous hunters and trappers. The difficulty of planting at such an angle, and the impossibility of utilizing the timber, have saved them until now from the axe of the woodman and the charcoal-burner. Goat-antelopes, bears, and panthers frequent the mountain-crests and the more inaccessible ravines, whence the bears and panthers make an occasional raid on the cleared ground. Wild cats (*Felis dominicanorum*) and monkeys often venture to the plantations in winter, and the former are frequently caught in the terrible gin-traps of the natives. Wild swine appear to have retired now far beyond Kuatun, and are said to be much hunted by the dogs (*Cuon* sp.) of the Shaowufu district. Tigers are known at Kuatun, though seldom seen or heard of.

The tracts of grassland which, as in South Ceylon (see Ibis, 1898, p. 334), cover the tops of some of the higher ranges and the more elevated parts of some ridges about Kuatun are of great interest. They occur from about 4000 feet above sea-level. I was unable to find out whether these lands had always been treeless or whether their present condition is due to human agency. I ascertained that the grasslands above Kuatun were occasionally fired, to renew the grass or to further the growth of some kind of fern which is used for food by the natives, but I do not know that the grassland covering part of the topmost crest of the other big mountain near Kuatun was artificially formed. However

this may be, these grassy heights are now tenanted by grass-frequenting birds, such as *Tribura russula, Suya crinigera,* and *Emberiza fucata,* and it is much to be regretted that the thick mists which wrapped the higher parts of the country during our stay prevented us from searching these grasslands to our satisfaction.

The saddle between the two highest points of Mount David and some of the steep ravines leading down from the top of this mountain are clad with damp woods, which are composed of stunted deciduous trees, generally covered with moss and lichen, while there is a thick undergrowth of dwarf bamboo. In this high forest, 6000 to 6500 feet above sea-level, we procured some of our most interesting birds and three of our novelties. *Brachypteryx sinensis, B. carolinæ,* and *Proparus guttaticollis* have, until now, only been obtained there. Other high-altitude birds, such as *Suthora verreauxi, Trochalopteron milni, Silviparus modestus,* and *Niltava sundara,* are also to be found up there from spring to autumn, while a fair number of other species, not peculiar to these heights, nest there in numbers, *Liothrix lutea* in particular abounding during the nesting-season. The bad weather which prevented exploration of the grasslands was also the cause of our failure to properly work the high forest in May, for the difficulty of the climb and the descent, as well as the cold and damp encountered on the collecting-ground, proved too much for even our hardy and sure-footed native hunters.

Fathers Masip and Valencia of Shaowufu, and Father Verges the missionary in charge of Kuatun, very kindly came up from the lowlands to visit us while we were staying at Kuatun. They gave us interesting information on the locality, and told us that the Kuatun Mountains are the highest in that part of Fohkien. To Father Masip I am indebted for an excellent map of N.W. Fohkien. We left Kuatun on the 20th May, and after two days' journey over the mountains in a south-westerly direction, reached Shaowufu, a city on the banks of the western branch of the river Min, where we were most hospitably received by Fathers Masip and Valencia, and, after a day's rest at the Mission, we left for Foochow on the 22nd May.

The journey down river took but five days, including half a day wasted at Yangkow in changing boats. As on the up-river journey, we remarked that the high, well-wooded mountains are in the Yen Ping-fu district, the country from Shaowufu to Yangkow being generally uninteresting. The only disagreeable incident of the whole trip occurred some miles below Yen Ping. While waiting in a sheltered corner for a threatening storm to pass, we had an unlucky dispute with some passing boatmen, who finally attacked us and would have boarded us if my wife had not, while we were trying to get rid of our assailants, brought a gun out of the cabin, which she pointed at them from above our backs. This intimidated the ruffians, who let go our fore-sweep, which they were trying to break, and we were able to pull in the anchor and shove off in mid-stream. At 5 A.M. on the 27th May we were back at Foochow.

Our best thanks are due to my chief, Sir Robert Hart, Bart., G.C.M.G., who kindly granted me leave to undertake this trip to N.W. Fohkien; to our kind hosts at Foochow, Count and Countess de Galembert and Mr. Rickett; to Mr. Styan, Mgr. Masot, and Fathers Masip, Valencia, and Verges. For the determination of many of our birds I am indebted to Mr. Ogilvie Grant, Dr. Oustalet, and Père David. And, lastly, whatever success we may have had on this expedition is largely due to the untiring energy and zeal of our two collectors, Wang Wang and Chunkai, and to the patient industry and devotion of our native servant.

1. Merula obscura (Gm.).

This Thrush passes Kuatun in April, May, and November.

2. Merula pallida (Gm.).

Two specimens of this Thrush were sent to us from Kuatun in March 1897. They had been obtained late in the previous autumn or during the winter.

3. Merula fuscata (Pall.).

We have examples of this Thrush shot in winter at Kuatun and near Shaowufu.

4. Geocichla sibirica (Pall.).

We have skins of this Thrush obtained in May, September, and October at Kuatun, where it would seem to be not uncommon on migration, especially during the autumn. Only two examples were procured during the last expedition—a fine male, shot on the 11th May on Mount David, some 6000 feet above sea-level, and a female brought to me on the 16th of May from a valley a few miles from Kuatun.

5. Geocichla varia (Pall.).

Two examples shot on the 4th and 23rd of April during the last expedition do not differ from specimens from Formosa and Foochow, nor from those collected on previous trips to Kuatun, where this bird appears to winter. I am indebted to Mr. G. F. Müller, of the Imperial Maritime Customs of China, for an example shot near Pakhoi in South China.

6. Myiophoneus cæruleus (Scop.).

A very common bird on the torrents near Kuatun.

Our collectors told us that in 1897 they found there quite a number of nests, but they appear to have begun to look for them too late, nearly all the nests containing young. They, however, brought us back two nests with one egg (others broken in taking the nest) and four eggs. The former was taken on the 19th of May. It is a somewhat oblong cup, composed of moss, with a first lining of dead leaves, then tendrils, and lastly bamboo-leaves, a few fine roots and tendrils holding the egg-cavity and the rim of the nest together. There is no moss at the back of the nest, where it rested against the rock it was taken from. The inner diameter of the nest is $3\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$ inches, part of the egg-cavity receding under the back rim. The depth of the egg-cavity is 2 inches, the outer diameter 7 × 9 inches, and the outer depth about 4 inches. The egg belonging to this nest is ovate in shape, with a very square apex. It measures 1·45 × 1 inch. Its colour is a light and dull stone-green, with a few specks and partly smudged spots of Indian red, and it has a tinge of red on the large end, where the spots are more numerous.

This year we were unfortunate (owing, I suspect, to the generally difficult position of these nests) and I only brought back one nest, taken on the 4th May from a ledge or recess in the rocky bank of the torrent that rushes down the narrow and steep glen below Kuatun. This nest was admirably concealed by a tuft of long grass that hung from above the edge in front of the nest, the bank being overgrown with bushes and trees. The nest was only about 3 feet above the stream. It is made of moss, earth, and fine roots, with an inner cup of fine roots and dead leaves, the moss and earth forming a large mass halfway round the cup, and probably piled up to fill up the niche and put the structure on a level keel. The depth of the cup is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and the inner diameter is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. There were four eggs, nearly fresh. They are ovate in shape, one of them being a rather short ovate. The colour is a reddish stone, very faintly freckled all over with an extremely pale shade of red, and one of the eggs has a very few small specks of dark red. They measure 1·41 by 1 inch, 1·40 by 1 inch, 1·35 by 1·03 inch, and 1·35 by 1 inch.

This bird appears to leave its nests on the slightest provocation. Two new nests thus deserted were seen by us near Foochow; while this spring (near Kuatun) the collectors saw one being built on a tree (!), but this also, on their returning to it afterwards, proved to have been abandoned.

7. Monticola erythrogaster (Vig.).

This fine Rock-Thrush occurs sparingly on the Kuatun Mountains, from about 3000 feet above sea-level, whence we have five adult males, three females, and two young. I have seen one flying over the top of Mount David. Two nests were found by our collector in 1897. They were taken from ledges on the face of rocks close to the village at an altitude of about 3500 feet.

One of the nests, taken on 20th May, contained two young birds and two addled eggs. Our wily Celestials considered the young too small to make into specimens, so they tied them by the leg until the time came to take them, the parent birds

continuing meanwhile to feed them. The remains of this nest consist of a pad of very fine roots woven and matted together; a leg of a grasshopper and a feather of a young bird still adhered to the pad when we received it. The two eggs, ovate in shape, measure 1·01 by 0·74 inch and 1 by 0·76 inch. They are of a pale pinkish yellow freckled with a darker shade of the same colour. The other nest, found on the 21st May, contained three young and an addled egg.

8. Monticola gularis (Swinhoe).

An adult male was shot by our men at Kuatun on the 9th May, 1897. We have not yet obtained this bird at Foochow. This Rock-Thrush is common at Newchwang in spring.

9. Garrulax picticollis Swinhoe.

Although we obtained breeding examples at Kuatun during the last expedition, we failed to find the nest. A large flock was met on the 20th March in a wood close to the river in the Kienyang district, so that this bird may be said to be an inland species occurring in mountainous wooded country at all altitudes, probably all over South-west Chekiang, Western Fohkien, and N.E. Kwangtung.

10. Trochalopteron canorum (L.).

I procured two nests of this bird, each containing four eggs, on 19th May: one clutch was hard set, the other fresh. The hunter was unable to secure the parent birds, but I have no reason to believe that he was mistaken. The nests are large cups, of rough exterior, made of twigs, &c., the egg-cavity in one measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth, and in the other 3 inches in depth by $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.

The four eggs of the fresh clutch are of a rather broad ovate in shape. Three measure 1·04 inch by 0·82, and one 1·05 inch by 0·83. The colour is uniform greenish turquoise-blue. The texture is not very smooth and is slightly pitted, but it is smoother than that of a clutch of four eggs brought to me in May 1897 at Peling, near Foochow, and

declared by the finder to be the eggs of this species. The shape of two of these latter eggs is a short ovate, one is rather oval with pointed extremities, and one is quite oval, also with pointed ends. The colour is absolutely the same as that of the Kuatun eggs, but the shell-surface is much rougher. They measure 1·07 inch by 0·88, 1·07 inch by 0·86, 1·05 inch by 0·84, and 1·02 inch by 0·84. The remains of the nest consisted of oak-leaves, bamboo-leaves, and bracken, with a lining of pine-needles.

One of the Kuatun nests was placed on a tree-stump in a wood, and the other in a tea-bush.

11. Trochalopteron cinereiceps Styan.

Trochalopteron styani Oustalet, Bull. Mus. H. N. 1898, no. 6, p 253 (part).

This is a common bird on the Kuatun Mountains. Our hunters shot several during the last expedition. Three of these, in my collection, all differ from one another in the colour of the cap. One male, dated 3rd May, has the cap nearly black with iron-grey occiput, the grey being prolonged down the nape; another male, dated 17th May, has the cap not quite so black, but the grey is prolonged down to between the shoulders; and a female, dated 11th April, has a grey cap without a trace of black.

This species nests in woods, I believe, building on the dwarf bamboos that form the chief undergrowth in most of the forests near Kuatun. In 1896 our collectors brought back a nest and two eggs taken in May. They shot at the bird as it flew off the nest, but did not secure it, a tail-feather remaining to prove the ownership of the nest. One of the eggs measures 0·96 inch by 0·72. The shape is ovate, the colour greenish turquoise-blue, and the texture is very smooth and polished.

A nest and three eggs collected by the Kuatun hunters in 1897, and said to be of this bird, were sold to me last spring. The eggs measure 1·10 inch by 0·77, 1·10 inch by 0·76, and 1·05 inch by 0·75. The shape of these is slightly more elongated than that of the above-mentioned

egg. A nest and two eggs were found just before we left Kuatun, but the eggs had been sucked by rats. The diameters of these are 0·71 and 0·70 inch.

12. Trochalopteron milni David.

This beautiful bird has been found by us only on the summit of Mount David. It lives among the low bamboo undergrowth of the forest, and appears to be now a scarce bird. Years ago, the natives say, many used to be captured in the rat-traps, but now they seldom, if ever, meet it below 6000 feet. However, in winter it must come down to a much lower level, but probably keeps to the forest undergrowths. I was told that, unlike its relatives, this Babbler is of a tame and confiding nature, and that its note is of surpassing beauty. We were unable to find the nest, and I regret to say that I did not see the bird alive. Our collectors shot a pair in the spring of 1897, and this year seven were shot by the native hunters. Of these, one is in the British Museum, while Styan, Rickett, and I have each two.

The notes taken on these seven birds are as follows:—

(*a*) ♀. 11th April, 1898. Iris? crimson; bill black; legs dark purplish grey: length 10·5 inches: ovaries developing.
(*b*) ♀. „ „ Soft parts and ovaries as above: length 10·5 in.
(*c*) ♂. „ „ Soft parts as above: testes 0·25 inch long: length 11 inches.
The stomachs of all these contained small beetles; that of the male contained also the remains of a small centipede.
(*d*) sex? 12th April, 1898. Soft parts as above: length 10·8 inches.
(*e*) ♀. „ „ „ „ wing 4 „
(*f*) sex? „ „ „ „ length 10·8 „
(*g*) ♂. „ „ „ „ „ 10·6 „

13. Ianthocincla berthemyi David.

This fine Babbler is not uncommon in the forests. We found it on the summit of Mount David, and it descends to at least 3000 feet above sea-level. Although I was not fortunate enough to see this bird alive, I once heard its whistle, which is the most beautiful bird-note I have ever listened to. I could not get any live young, but on the eve of our depar-

ture two were shot. The nest is not unknown to the natives, as I heard them once talking about it. An egg and the remains of a nest *supposed* to belong to this species were brought to us by our men in the spring of 1896. The egg is greenish turquoise-blue, like those of *Trochalopteron cinereiceps*, but it is even smoother and more polished. The shape is an elongated ovate, and it measures 1·16 by 0·80 inch. The remains of the nest consist of a pad of bamboo-leaves, inside of which there is a thin layer of fine roots, small twigs, and pine-needles, securely woven together in the shape of a shallow cup, about 5 inches in diameter and about ½ inch deep.

The colours of the soft parts in this rare and charming species are :—*Iris* grey, with an outer ring of blue ; *bare skin round the eye* blue ; *bill* black at the base, apical half yellow ; *legs* greenish lead. Length 11·5 inches. The young bird differs from the adult only in having the top of the head plain and in the breast being chiefly grey. There is no white on the ear-coverts, and the terminal white spots on the side rectrices are not so clearly defined as in the adult. The general plumage is, of course, duller.

14. Pomatorhinus swinhoii David.

This handsome Scimitar-Babbler is not at all uncommon in Central and North-west Fohkien in suitable localities. Among the Kuatun Mountains we did not hear it very often, but it was breeding in the forest on the top of Mount David. Our collectors found there, during a previous visit, a couple of deserted or old nests. One had been pillaged by rats and contained broken egg-shells.

15. Pomatorhinus stridulus Swinhoe.

Common all over Fohkien in suitable localities. We found some breeding on the top of Mount David.

Our collectors brought us down a nest and four eggs, taken at Kuatun on the 27th April, 1897. The nest is an oblong domed structure, made wholly of bamboo-leaves with fine grass-stems and a little moss as lining. The inner diameter is about 3 inches, outer diameter about 5 inches by 6 inches in depth (front to back wall). The depth

of the egg-cavity is about $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The total outer length is about 10 inches. The four eggs are ovate in shape and measure 0·90 by 0·68 inch.

16. Proparus guttaticollis La Touche.

The only place where this pretty little bird has as yet been obtained is the forest on the summit of Mount David. It lives there in small flocks, probably coming down to a lower level during the winter snows. I met with it once on the very top of the mountain on the 15th April. There was only a pair, busy exploring the branches of the still bare trees, and their ways resembled those of the Tits, while they constantly uttered a plaintive "tzi tzee," not unlike the call of *Acredula concinna*. The food of this bird consists of small insects, caterpillars, and one of those shot had a tiny snail and butterfly's (?) eggs in its stomach. The soft parts are as follows:—Iris greyish hazel; bill black; gape yellow; legs reddish grey.

♂. Bill 0·45 in.; wing 2·26 in.; tail 2·08 in.; tarsus 0·91 in.; length 4·90 in.
♀. „ 0·45 „ „ 2·17 „ „ 2·04 „ „ 0·91 „ „ 4·84 „

Eleven specimens were measured.

A nest and three eggs were found by our collectors in the high forest on the 25th May, 1897. The ground-colour of one of the eggs is a light sea-green, with a cap of blotches of several shades of brownish green over a few underlying grey spots, with short hair-lines of a very dark brown distributed over the whole; the rest of the egg has a very few minute specks. The shape is a slightly rounded ovate. It measures 0·70 by 0·55 inch. The other eggs are similar.

On the 18th May last, two days before our departure, two of the hunters who had, notwithstanding the bad weather, ventured up the mountain, brought me another nest with four fresh eggs and the remains of the parent bird. This nest they also found in the forest on the top of our mountain. Like the preceding, it is a neat and strong little cup made of coarse grasses and bamboo-leaves, and bound with moss. A bunch of long grass hangs from its base. The edge of the nest is neatly finished, and there is a thick lining of soft,

shining, black fibre. It was placed in the upright fork of a dwarf bamboo, and was not *slung*, like the nests of *Liothrix* and *Alcippe*. The inner diameter of this nest is $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch by 2 inches; the depth of the cup is about $1\frac{9}{10}$ inch. The outer diameter is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and the outer depth about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The four eggs differ as follows from the one described above:—Besides the blotches, chiefly gathered about the large end, there are also several blotches over the rest of the egg; the underlying spots are more apparent and numerous, and are of a violet-grey colour. They are ovate in shape and measure 0·76 inch by 0·56, 0·75 inch by 0·54, 0·74 inch by 0·53, and 0·72 inch by 0 55.

17. Alcippe hueti David.

We noticed several flocks of this bird during the up-river journey, and it was common enough, during our stay, on the top of Mount David. Three nests were obtained. One was found in a wooded valley of the Yungfu Mountains, near Foochow, on the 15th June, 1896. It was placed on a low bush and was slung on the twigs at the extremity of a branch, about 2 feet from the ground. It contained three fresh eggs. This nest is composed of bamboo and other leaves, the skeleton ribs of fern frond tips, a little grass, and a few pine-needles; these and the fern-ribs, with a few spiders' webs, holding the nest together. There is a compact lining of pine-needles and a few black fern-stems. The whole nest is very loosely put together. It measures $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in inner diameter, about 4 inches in outer diameter, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in depth of cup, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in outer depth. Two of the eggs measure 0·76 by 0·60 inch, and one 0·73 inch by 0·58. They are ovate in shape, and their colour is a pale livid pink, with small clouds and blotches of pale livid claret. On one of the eggs there is a small cap of this tint, over a few violet-grey underlying spots, while on the other two the markings are chiefly about the larger end, round which the violet-grey underlying spots are disposed. Numerous short hair-lines of madder-brown are scrawled over the blotches, and small spots of the same colour occur here and there over the eggs.

The second nest, containing four eggs, was taken by our men at Kuatun on the 6th May, 1897. It was found in bamboo-jungle at an altitude of about 4000 feet. The third nest, obtained during the last expedition, was found high up on the mountain above Kuatun, and was brought to me with the hen parent on the 5th May. It was slung on the twigs of a dwarf bamboo. It is a fairly strong cup, made of bamboo-leaves and coarse grass-blades, and bound with moss. The cup is rounded inside with fine twigs or leaf-stems, and has a light lining of soft, curly, black fibre. The inner diameter is $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches by a little under $2\frac{1}{2}$, the outer diameter $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $5\frac{1}{2}$; the depth of the cup is a little under 2 inches, and the outer depth is $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches. This nest contained four fresh eggs, resembling generally those found near Foochow, but they are more thickly blotched and have very few hair-lines or dark spots. Three have a cap, the centre of the large end being lighter, and one has a rough ring. They are ovate in shape and measure 0·76 inch by 0·57, 0·75 inch by 0·57, 0·72 inch by 0·57, and 0·72 inch by 0·56.

18. Alcippe brunnea Gould.

Common in the forests about Kuatun. Fohkien examples have lighter underparts than Formosan specimens, but this appears to be the only difference between them.

19. Stachyridopsis ruficeps (Blyth).

Eleven specimens from Fohkien differ from seven Formosan specimens, in having the red of the head of a noticeably lighter tint and the whole of the underparts of a much warmer colouring.

We found four nests of this bird in May this year, and one was taken for me last year. All were found in bamboo-jungle, and at least three were built close to paths. Four of the five clutches were incubated, and one was fresh. They consist of 5, 5, 5 (fresh), 4, and 3 eggs. The nests are all more or less fragile, of rough and uneven outward shape, domed, with side entrance. They are made of bamboo-leaves gummed together, apparently with spiders' webs, and are lined with fine grass.

The two nests that I took myself were placed on bent dwarf bamboos, to which they were fastened, and were also made fast to two or three upright bamboos. They were from 2 to 3 feet from the ground. The dimensions of one, taken in the high forest on Mount David, are:—total length 6½ inches; width 4½ inches; depth from entrance to outer back wall 3½ inches; depth of egg-cavity about 1¾ inch; inner diameter 2 inches; aperture (oblong) 1½ inch high by about 2 inches wide. The other nest, taken from the jungle by the roadside above Kuatun, measures:—total length about 5¼ inches; depth from entrance to back wall 3½ inches; it is widest at the top, with a cone-shaped base; depth of egg-cavity about 1½ inch; inner height about 3 inches; inner diameter 2 inches; aperture 1 inch by 2 inches.

None of the three clutches which I have now by me resemble one another. In one, four of the eggs are perfectly ovate in shape, the fifth being nearly oval. These eggs are white, thinly but distinctly speckled with pale brown on a few underlying violet specks, the markings chiefly concentrated round the large end of the egg, where they form a more or less distinct ring. These eggs measure 0·68 × 0·50, 0·67 × 0·51, 0·67 × 0·50 (two), and 0·66 × 0·51 inch. Another clutch of five eggs has only a very few pale brown marks, two of the eggs being almost white. Two others have a more or less well-marked cap, while the fifth has but a few faint marks round the large end, these forming a faint cap or crown. Four of these eggs incline to a blunt oval, the fifth is an exact ovate. They measure 0·65 × 0·50, 0·65 × 0·49, 0·63 × 0·50 (two), and 0·63 × 0·49 inch. The three eggs of the third clutch have a well-defined small cap or very broad ring of vandyke-brown, and violet specks over fainter grey underlying specks, with a very few marks over the rest of the eggs. They are ovate, with a very blunt and rounded apex. They measure 0·66 × 0·50, 0·62 × 0 50, and 0·61 × 0·49 inch.

20. Suya crinigera Hodgson.

This bird is common on the grasslands above Kuatun.

We did not obtain nests there, but on Peling, near Foochow, I found three during May 1897; all placed in tufts of grass, on hills covered with grass and low brush-wood. Of these nests one was empty, though new; another contained young, and the third was unfinished; they are of the same shape as those of *Prinia sonitans*. They are made of long grass-blades, coarse and fine, and grass-down, cobwebs being used in the construction. The total length of one nest is $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches, width $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches, depth from front to back $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

21. Cisticola exilis (Vig. & Horsf.).

A young male of this species was shot in N.W. Fohkien on the 22nd March, during the boat journey to Kuatun. It was found on some stony ground overgrown with sword-grass, near the river. This bird is very dark, differing in this from two examples of *C. exilis* shot in North Formosa. Total length 5 inches, wing 1·85, tail 2·30. Iris hazel; bill—upper mandible pinkish brown, lower mandible pink; legs pale flesh. Mr. Rickett obtained an example of this species some years ago near Foochow. As yet we have no others from Fohkien.

22. Paradoxornis guttaticollis David.

We have not obtained this bird at Kuatun, but it is common in the mountains of Central Fohkien.

23. Paradoxornis gularis Gray.

We have two nests with eggs of this bird. The first was taken by our men at Kuatun on the 12th May, 1897. One of the eggs of this nest is pale greenish with a few clouds, chiefly at the large end, of very pale raw sienna, a few comma-like hair-lines and spots of brown, and a few well-defined lilac-grey spots. The texture is smooth and the surface slightly glossy. Its shape is a broad ovate with a much rounded and blunt apex. It measures 0·84 × 0·65 inch.

The second nest was found by one of our Kuatun hunters in the forest (alt. about 3500 feet) on the 1st April, 1898. It was placed on a bamboo at a height of about 14 feet from

the ground, the bamboo being but a few yards from the path. It was then empty. On the 14th we returned and found the hen sitting. She only flew off, when the bamboo was touched, to perch on a neighbouring tree, where I shot her to make quite sure of the identity of the nest. There were three eggs quite fresh. The nest is one of the most beautiful that I have ever seen. It is a carefully-finished cup, with broad bulging sides (especially on one side), made of strips of bamboo fastened together with cobwebs and spiders' nests. It is lined with fine strips of grass. The outer diameter is 4 inches, the outer depth $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; the inner diameter is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and the depth of the cup $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The eggs resemble those of the first clutch, but the clouds are more numerous, more broken up, and more distributed over the whole egg. These eggs have a cap of lilac-grey underlying spots on the large end. The shape of one is a nearly exact oval, and the other two are a broad ovate with blunt and much rounded apex. They measure $0{\cdot}85 \times 0{\cdot}67$, $0{\cdot}84 \times 0{\cdot}67$, and $0{\cdot}82 \times 0{\cdot}64$ inch.

24. Suthora webbiana Gray.

The comparison of a series of N.W. Fohkien specimens of this bird with some skins from Peking, Shanghai, and Ichang, which I owe to the generosity of Mr. F. W. Styan, and with a single, but especially good and perfect, skin (apparently typical) of *Suthora bulomachus* from North Formosa, induces me to make the following remarks on this variable species.

I will first state that my Formosan skin, a male shot on the 25th November near Hobé, in North Formosa, differs from *all* my 28 Chinese skins :—

(*a*) By the paler rosy colour of the sides of the head, in absolute contrast with the red of the top of the head;

(*b*) By its very pale throat; and

(*c*) By the larger size of its bill.

Our Kuatun breeding birds do not differ conspicuously among themselves; all have the intensely ruddy head and

neck well separated from the grey-brown back; but the winter specimens from the same locality have the red of the head somewhat less distinctly separated from the colour of the back, and are duskier throughout, thus approaching the brighter of the dull-coloured Shanghai birds. All these birds are absolutely distinct from the Formosan skin mentioned above. The examples from Shanghai and its neighbourhood (one summer and six winter skins) differ from the Kuatun specimens in the less rich colouring of the head and the generally duller appearance of the plumage, the colour of the head merging into the colour of the back; but another winter skin from Anwhei is lighter and more brightly coloured, and, by its head and back, is intermediate between the Kuatun and the Formosan examples. An October skin from Ichang is again very like the Kuatun skins in the distinctness of the head and neck colouring from that of the back, the brightness of its head, and the light colour of the underparts. A Peking example of *S. longicauda* is very like the duller of the Shanghai skins, but equals in size the Formosan bird.

The conclusion that I draw from the comparison of my skins is that there is but one real species, *Suthora webbiana* Gray, which is, however, divisible into one Formosan and three Chinese races:—

Suthora longicauda Campbell. North of Shanghai, but barely distinct from the following.

S. webbiana Gray (typical). Shanghai and the adjoining country along the coast.

S. suffusa Swinhoe. Upper Yangtze and Fohkien mountains. Racial characters specially marked in Fohkien summer skins.

S. bulomachus Swinhoe. Formosa. Very fairly distinct from the Chinese birds. More nearly related to the Fohkien and Ichang race of *S. webbiana*.

I believe that Mr. Styan is of my opinion as regards the Chinese races of *S. webbiana*, but his large series shows that all the Chinese forms meet in the basin of the lower Yangtze.

Webb's *Suthora* is very abundant near Kuatun, frequenting the tea-fields in large flocks, as also bamboo-plantations and thickets near cleared ground. I saw it paired for the first

time on the 14th April. I obtained the first nest on the 27th April, and we took nests containing fresh eggs throughout May to the 19th May (day before our departure). The bird nests in the tea-plantations. The nest is placed on the bigger tea-plants, in a fork or between two or three upright branches near the top of the bush, but always well sheltered by the upper twigs and leaves. This species is said to be very shy at the nest, and my hunters assured me that if the parent birds notice that their dwelling has been discovered they will break the eggs and forsake it. I must say, however, that one nest which I watched, after having disturbed the sitting bird, was again occupied after a few minutes' waiting. Perhaps the hunters' statement only applies to nests with eggs that have not yet been sat on. On being disturbed, the sitting bird slips quietly off and flies away close along the ground till hidden by brushwood, &c. A nest was once brought to me in a closed box, the parent bird being inside, tied by the leg. This bird, on my taking hold of it to release it, bit fiercely, and when released flew on to the rafters of our sitting-hall, where it remained for some seconds swearing at us before it finally flew away.

The nest is a very pretty and generally neat, well-finished, and fairly stiff cup, composed of bamboo-leaves, coarse and fine grasses, wrapped up in long soft moss and bound with cobwebs. The lining is of very fine grass-stems or coir-fibre, and the rim of the nest is generally well finished and plastered with cobwebs. The inner measurements of 16 nests average 2 inches in depth by $1\frac{3}{4}$ in diameter, several being somewhat under 2 inches in depth, while one is $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The cup is not always round, as six of the 16 nests measured are oblong, with a diameter varying between $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$ and $1\frac{3}{4} \times 2$ inches. The outer depth varies much; the average is about $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches, but I have one which is as much as $4\frac{3}{4}$, while another is only $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The thickness of the walls is also variable, the round nests varying from 3 to 4 inches in outer diameter, and the oblong ones from 3 to $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The average outer diameter is $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

The full clutch of eggs is five; the general colour being a plain pale greenish blue, but pure white and greenish-white clutches are not uncommon. The most ordinary shape is a broad or rounded ovate, but every other shape occurs from a perfect oval to an ovate. The texture is smooth, satiny, but only slightly glossy. Seventy-four eggs average $0{\cdot}62 \times 0{\cdot}49$ inch; the smallest of these is $0{\cdot}56 \times 0{\cdot}47$ inch, while the largest is $0{\cdot}67 \times 0{\cdot}51$ inch. I have not included in the above average one clutch the eggs of which measure $0{\cdot}62 \times 0{\cdot}45$, $0{\cdot}58 \times 0{\cdot}45$, $0{\cdot}57 \times 0{\cdot}45$, and $0{\cdot}56 \times 0{\cdot}44$ inch.

The eggs attributed to *S. bulomachus* (Ibis, 1898, p. 361) are slightly darker in colour than the above, and are much broader.

25. Suthora davidiana Slater.

We obtained only a few examples of this new *Suthora* on the last trip. They were shot on some hills near Kuatun, where they were apparently located.

The soft parts of this species, as noted by me at Kuatun, are: iris brown; bill bluish white; legs dull reddish grey. Three males measure in total length 3·7, 3·8, and 3·9 inches.

The intensity of the chestnut on the head varies somewhat; most of my specimens have dark lores, and the feathers over the eye are partly black. The plate in 'The Ibis' (1897) is incorrect as regards the shape of the bill and the general appearance of the bird.

26. Suthora verreauxi Sharpe.

♂. 11th May, 1898. Iris dark brown; bill plumbeous, lighter on lower mandible; legs flesh-coloured, tinted with plumbeous; feet strongly tinted with the same. Length 4·3 inches. The stomach contained tiny white larvæ, one tiny beetle, and remains of reeds.

Our collectors shot two specimens on the 9th April and 10th May, 1897, in the forest on the top of Mount David. This spring a flock of about ten birds was met by one of our hunters in the very same part of the forest on the 11th May, but only one specimen was secured. I have compared this skin with specimens in Père David's private collection and with the type and the other specimens in the Paris Museum.

27. Cinclus pallasi Temm.

Common on the torrents near Kuatun. Full-grown young were flying about during our stay. Adult birds were extremely wild, but the young generally allowed a close approach. Several eggs were collected for me before our arrival. One of these is of a somewhat elongated ovate with pointed apex, and measures $1{\cdot}55 \times 0{\cdot}77$ inch; another is more oval, measuring $1{\cdot}50 \times 0\,76$ inch.

28. Henicurus sinensis Gould.

We have not obtained the nest of this bird in N.W. Fohkien, but I took one in the Peling country near Foochow on the 14th May, 1897. It was found in an alley at the back of a house, and was placed on a ledge of the cut rock forming the back wall of the alley, at a height of about 9 feet from the ground. On my approach the bird flew down the alley and waited there till the crowd had dispersed, and, notwithstanding that an egg had already been taken from the nest, returned to it as soon as the place was again quiet.

The nest is a cup, composed outwardly of moss, with thick sloping walls in front, diminishing in width at the sides, and very thin at the back, where the nest rested against the rock. The inner part of the nest is of fine grass, fine roots, and tendrils, these forming a strong inner cup, but which can be seen through where no moss occurs below it; there are a few skeleton-leaves as final lining. The depth of the cup is between $1\frac{3}{4}$ and 2 inches. The inner diameter is $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches. From the edge of the cup to the foot of the sloping front wall about 4 inches. The thickness of the back wall is about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. There were four fresh eggs: two of somewhat pyriform ovate shape, and two more ovate, but also with sharp apex. The ground-colour of these eggs is a cold or stone orange, and they are spotted and lightly speckled with two shades of a warm brick-red over reddish-lilac underlying spots. The spots are fewer on one egg, darker, and there is a small dark cap of semi-underlying blotches of warm red-brown. There is an approach to a cap on another egg. These eggs are of smooth texture, with very little gloss. They measure $0{\cdot}95 \times 0{\cdot}67$, $0{\cdot}92 \times 0{\cdot}69$, $0{\cdot}90 \times 0{\cdot}66$, and $0{\cdot}90 \times 0{\cdot}66$ inch.

29. Henicurus guttatus Gould.

This pretty Forktail is not an uncommon resident at Kuatun, whence our collectors have procured us some twenty skins, but we have not yet found the nest. I have seen this bird high above Kuatun, and in winter it probably seeks the lower valleys of the range.

Four males average: culmen 0·80, wing 4·37, tail 5·80, tarsus 1·15 inch. Two females average: culmen 0·80, wing 4·05, tail 5·30, tarsus 1·15 inch. A male shot last spring measured 10·7 inches total length. Two females shot last spring measured 10 inches total length. An apparently young bird, dated "Kuatun, 27.9.96," has the dorsal spots very small, and shows two partly white feathers on the throat and neck. Another, dated "Kuatun, 2.10.96," is in full moult.

30. Henicurus schistaceus Hodgs.

Distributed over the mountainous parts of Fohkien. We have a few skins from Kuatun, and one nest with eggs, taken there by our collectors on the 17th April, 1897. The nest is of moss outwardly, the back wall being very thin. The inner cup is strong and composed of fine red-brown fibre (probably coir), with a good lining of skeleton-leaves. The shape of the cup is oval. Inner diameter 3×4 inches; outer diameter $4\frac{1}{2} \times 6$ inches; depth of cup $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch; height of front wall $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. There were four incubated eggs, one of which is marked. The shape of these eggs is ovate. The ground-colour is pinkish white; two eggs are sparsely covered with irregular-shaped spots of pale reddish; in the third the markings are larger and in the form of splashes, with large underlying blotches or splashes of a pale reddish lilac, which form a cap on the large end of the egg. Two of these eggs measure $0{\cdot}89 \times 0{\cdot}65$ and $0{\cdot}87 \times 0{\cdot}63$ inch.

We have young from Kuatun taken from the nest and dated May 1896, and 8th May 1897. In these the top and sides of the head and the back are olive-grey, the lesser wing-coverts edged with the same. The throat is white, each feather edged with grey. The breast-feathers have a

broad edging of olive-grey, and in very young birds the flanks are nearly altogether brownish grey.

31. Microcichla scouleri (Vigors).

We have three nests from Kuatun: one taken by our men in 1897, containing one egg, and two obtained last spring, each with four eggs. One of the latter was taken by a native hunter on the 17th April, from a rock in a torrent, and brought to me with both the parent birds. It is a strongly and compactly built moss-nest, lined with skeleton-leaves. The inner diameter is a little under $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches; the depth of the cup $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch. The outer depth in front is $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and the outer diameter $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The four eggs were much incubated. The shape is ovate, one egg being much broader than the others. The ground-colour is white, with a few spots of light reddish, chiefly at the larger end, and forming a light cap on two of the eggs. One of the latter has well-marked and fairly large pale lilac-reddish underlying spots on the large end. The three others have these smaller and fewer in number. These eggs measure $0\cdot77 \times 0\cdot59$, $0\cdot77 \times 0\cdot59$, $0\cdot77 \times 0\cdot57$, and $0\cdot75 \times 0\cdot59$ inch. The other nest was obtained for me in March, before our arrival at Kuatun; the eggs have darker spots than those just described.

32. Brachypteryx sinensis Rickett.

Eight males average: culmen 0·60 inch, wing 2·61, tail 2·61, tarsus 1·10. Total length of seven males, measured in the flesh, 5·40 to 5·70 (average 5·60) inches.

Eight females average: culmen 0·58 inch, wing 2·51, tail 1·94, tarsus 1·10. Total length of five females, measured in the flesh, 5·40 to 5·60 (average 5·50) inches.

Iris dark brown, bill blackish, legs greyish purple, feet darker.

Two males, dated 19.10.96, have light spots at tip of greater wing-coverts, and one of them has dull brown quills.

A young female, obtained in October 1896, has light spots at tip of greater wing-coverts; and a younger one, dated 19.10.96, has, besides these light spots, a few pale-centred

feathers on hind neck and upper back (remains of nestling plumage). The young, taken from the incubated eggs mentioned below, are covered with black down.

This Shortwing is found in the forest on the top of Mount David from April to November. Our collectors have always obtained it, while I have seen it, in the dwarf bamboo-undergrowth of the forest, and as yet we have found it nowhere else. It keeps to this low jungle, and is very difficult to observe, owing to the thickness of the vegetation, which prevents one seeing anything beyond a few yards. The song of the male is very sweet, and is composed of six or seven clear but rather shrill notes. The food, as ascertained by dissection, consists of tiny beetles, ants, flies, butterfly-eggs, and one of those collected had eaten a small centipede.

Our collectors brought us two nests, each with three eggs (the full clutch) in 1897. These were taken on the 24th of April and the 25th of May, and were placed against the moss-covered trunks of trees, near the foot of the tree. During the last trip I saw two nests *in situ*; while another, with one egg, was seen by our collectors, who also took one with the full complement of eggs.

I saw the first nest on the 15th April. It was empty, but newly built; an oblong domed mass of moss, with the aperture in front near the top, and built, just as our men had told us, on the trunk of a tree, about 18 inches from the ground. It was afterwards deserted by its owners. The second nest was taken on the 11th May. It had been found on the 9th, but we were unable to take it then, as the birds were absent, and a prolonged watch under torrents of rain was dangerous in the damp and cold forest. On the 11th, the weather being somewhat better, we went up the mountain again, and having induced our collector Chunkai to set coir-fibre nooses about the entrance, the female was soon caught, and we took the nest. The three eggs were unfortunately on the point of hatching, the shell being already pierced. This nest was oblong and domed. It was placed, like the one seen on the 15th April, against the moss-covered trunk of a tree about

18 inches from the ground, the entrance, which is near the top, being also in front. The nest was worked in the living moss with which the trunk was covered, and projected but slightly when seen sideways. The aperture is nearly circular, 2 inches in diameter. The outer length of the nest is $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the width about 5 inches, the depth from front to back wall about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The distance from outside the entrance to the inner wall is $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches, the diameter of the egg-cavity about 2 inches, the depth of the egg-cavity about 1 inch. This nest is made of moss exteriorly, the inner part being of dead leaves, and the egg-cavity thickly lined with, or rather made of, moss-roots.

The other nest brought back with us on this trip was taken by the collectors on the 16th May. This nest, according to Chunkai, was built about 4 feet from the ground, and was fixed sideways, the tree-trunk forming one side of the nest, which now looks as if the upper part of one side had been sliced off. Like the other, it is made outwardly of moss, the cavity has a foundation of dead leaves, and the interior is thickly lined with moss-roots. The inner height of this nest is $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; the egg-cavity is about 1 inch deep, with a diameter of 2 inches. The outer length, including some loose moss at the base of the nest, is 9 inches.

I have three full clutches of the eggs of this *Brachypteryx*. The eggs of the first clutch, dated 24th April, 1897, are ovate, as are those of the clutch taken on the 11th May, 1898. Of the three eggs taken on the 16th May two are ovate, inclining to oval, and one is of pyriform shape with blunt apex. The colour is orange or pinkish buff, the first two clutches being darker than the third. The large end is of a darker tint in all save the abnormal pyriform egg. Two eggs of the first clutch and three of the second are speckled with a slightly darker tint of orange. The texture of these eggs is smooth when seen by the naked eye, but pitted and somewhat uneven when seen through a low-power lens. There is a very slight gloss. The first clutch measures $0{\cdot}84 \times 0{\cdot}60$ inch (2 eggs) and $0{\cdot}83 \times 0{\cdot}60$ inch; the second,

0·84 × 0·61, 0·81 × 0·57, and 0·80 × 0·60 inch; the third, 0·84 × 0·61 and 0·81 × 0·60 inch (2 eggs).

33. Brachypteryx carolinæ.

Brachypteryx carolinæ La Touche, Bull. B. O. C. viii. p. ix (1898); Ibis, 1899, p. 123.

♂. Whole upper plumage dark russet-brown, quills brown, washed externally with the same. Ring of feathers round the eye, centre of cheek-feathers, and lores lighter. A short, silky, white eyebrow over the lores and eye. Underparts bluish white on breast, pale grey on upper flanks, white on abdomen and anal region; feathers of the throat white edged with brown, as also those of breast and upper flanks; lower flanks rufescent brown. Edge of wing silky white and pale ochre; lesser under wing-coverts white tinged with ochre; larger under wing-coverts dark brownish grey like underneath of quills. Axillaries pale grey tinged with ochre; under tail-coverts tinged with fulvous; tibiæ brown. Iris dark brown; bill livid purple-brown; mouth pinkish; inside of bill bluish; tongue slightly forked and brush-tipped, dark at the tip; legs violet-plumbeous, bluer on the joints; claws pale flesh. Culmen 0·60 inch, wing 2·45, tail 1·55, tarsus 1·10; total length 5·20 inches. 11th April.

♀. Upper plumage similar to that of the male, but with the eyebrow very short and not apparent, unless the feathers are lifted, the base of the feathers only being white. There is very little white about the throat and neck, and the breast is almost altogether pale brown, the under tail-coverts are darker, the edge of the wing has some feathers tipped with ochre, the lesser under wing-coverts and the axillaries are of much the same colour as the breast. Iris very dark brown; upper mandible and tip of lower mandible dark purplish; lower mandible greyish pink; legs violet-plumbeous with pale claws. Culmen 0·60 inch, wing 2·30, tail 1·45, tarsus 1·10; total length 5 inches. 11th May. Caught at the nest.

Besides these two examples we obtained three others:—a female, wing 2·30 inches, total length 4·80 (tail imperfect), shot on 15th April; a male, shot on the same date,

wing 2·40 inches, total length 5·20; and another male shot on 9th May, total length 4·95 inches. I have named this bird after my wife, whose courage and presence of mind saved the party from rough treatment at the hands of a pack of infuriated Chinese boatmen on the return journey.

This new Shortwing is found in the same locality as the preceding species; but it seems to be much scarcer, and had hitherto escaped our collectors. The habits of this bird are apparently similar to those of *B. sinensis*; but it builds its nest on the dwarf bamboos of the high forest, not on tree-trunks. I heard the song of a bird hiding close to the first nest taken, which must have been that of the male. It resembled somewhat the song of *B. sinensis*, but ended in a deep "churr"; the song, so far as it can be put down in writing, being something like "churree-teree-teree-churr." The food, as ascertained by dissection, consists of small beetles, larvæ, tiny shells, small centipedes, and butterfly-eggs.

We obtained two nests on this trip. On the 9th of May, as we were walking along one of the paths lately cut in the forest on the top of Mount David, we heard a loud and angry chatter, like that of *Alcippe hueti* or *Strachyridopsis ruficeps*, in the bamboos near the path, and one of the hunters, looking in, found a nest with two eggs. The owner, however, had fled, and all our attempts to secure the female were fruitless; as, although she returned to the nest, she flew out at once on our approach, only giving us a momentary glimpse of a little brown bird which disappeared at once in the dark bamboo undergrowth. Heavy rain coming on, we had to give it up. On the 11th we revisited the nest; the collectors set coir-fibre nooses, and after some time the female returned and was caught. This nest is a domed oval structure, made of moss and bamboo-leaves compactly put together, rather a strong nest on the whole. The egg-cavity has a good lining of skeleton-leaves, and the dome is lined with fine black moss-roots. The aperture is large and of oval shape; a bamboo-leaf hung over it and partly closed it. It is 2 inches high by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches broad. The total length of the nest is 7 inches, not including some loose moss hanging

from the base of the nest. The outer width at the base of the aperture is about 5 inches, the depth from the same place to the back of the nest about $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The inner diameter is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and the depth of the egg-cavity $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch. This nest was set upright on some bent bamboos that had been pushed aside when the path was cut, and was also supported by a straight-growing bamboo, on the top of which it rested. There were three light olive-green eggs.

On the 18th May, another nest, with three fresh eggs, resembling the nest just described, but with no black fibre lining to the dome, was found by our Kuatun hunters. The parent birds were not seen by the hunters, but there is no doubt as to the ownership of the nest. It measures exteriorly $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, about 5 inches in width, and about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth at the base of the entrance, which is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch high by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide. The inside measurements are: diameter $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, depth of egg-cavity $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch, total height inside about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

The remains of a nest, with three olive-green eggs and one of a greenish-blue capped with a thick freckling of reddish brown, were brought by our men from Kuatun in 1897. This nest was taken on the 25th May, in the same forest and on the same small bamboos; but our collectors could not secure the parent birds, and we had, until now, remained in ignorance as to its identity. It is quite evident that these are also the nest and eggs of *B. carolinæ*. The fourth egg is probably that of a Cuckoo.

The eggs taken on the 11th of May are light olive-green, indistinctly freckled with a shade of brownish slightly darker than the ground-colour, and forming a small cap on two of the eggs. The texture is like that of the eggs of *B. sinensis*, but there is a decided gloss. The shape of two of the eggs is an attenuated ovate, approaching a long oval, and the third egg is more oval, still narrower, and more elongated at both ends. They measure $0{\cdot}87 \times 0{\cdot}57$, $0{\cdot}86 \times 0{\cdot}59$, and $0{\cdot}86 \times 0{\cdot}58$ inch. The eggs taken on the 16th May are similar in colour. The four eggs obtained last year are nearly oval, with blunt rounded ends; three are

more distinctly and heavily freckled with light reddish brown than the eggs just described, and the shell is not so polished. Two of them measure 0·84×0·60 and 0·82×0·57 inch. The fourth egg, as already stated, is bluish green, with a cap of reddish brown, two thirds of the egg being lightly freckled with the same colour. It measures 0·81×0·57 inch.

34. Oreicola ferrea (Hodgson).

This Bush-Chat breeds commonly on the mountains about Kuatun, at an altitude of 4000 feet and above. The nest is generally found in bamboo-plantations close to open ground, in tea-fields, and also occasionally in the open. Of the nine nests taken during the last trip, three were found on the ground in hollows under tussocks of grass in lightly planted bamboo-groves; one was taken from under a stone on the edge of a bamboo-plantation, one from a niche in a bank on the edge of a bamboo-plantation, one from a stone-bank in a tea-field close to a wood, and one from an earth-bank near a path on a grass-covered mountain, but, again, quite close to a wood. The other nests were brought to me by natives. Besides these nine, we have three taken by our men in the spring of 1897. The following are the dates of the nests collected at Kuatun:—

1897.	9 May.	5 eggs.			
	14 „	4 „			
	21 „	5 „			
1898.	29 April.	5 „	Slightly incubated.	No. 34,	'98 coll.
	29 „	5 „	„ „	„ 35,	„
	3 May.	4 „	Somewhat „	„ 44,	„
	5 „	5 „	Hard set.	„ 55,	„
	9 „	5 „	Fresh.	„ 70,	„
	13 „	5 „		„ 84,	„
	14 „	5 „	Fresh.	„ 93,	„
	14 „	5 „	„	„ 94,	„
	14 „	5 „	„	„ 95,	„

It has been stated that the eggs of this Chat are spotted. With us this is certainly not always the case. The three clutches taken in 1897 are of a plain turquoise-green, or of a greenish blue, rather greener and darker than the eggs of

Suthora webbiana; and of the nine clutches taken in 1898 six are also unspotted (Nos. 44, 55, 70, 84, 93, and 95). No. 34 has two eggs faintly spotted round the large end, two with a very few very faint specks, and one quite unspotted.

No. 35 has one egg faintly speckled all over, one with a ring of very faint specks round the large end, two with a few minute specks (very dark on one egg), and the fifth egg quite unspotted.

No. 94 has a distinct nimbus or cap of pale reddish-brown spots on four eggs, the fifth egg being so faintly marked that only the closest examination can reveal the spots.

The most ordinary shape of these eggs is a nearly true oval, but a few are ovate.

Thirty-three eggs average $0{\cdot}73 \times 0{\cdot}57$ inch; they vary in length between 0·70 and 0·75 inch, and in breadth between 0·55 and 0·59 inch. An exceptionally long egg measures $0{\cdot}77 \times 0{\cdot}57$ inch.

The nest is a cup with the two side-walls raised up slightly higher than the back and front. There is always a very neat inner cup, made of grass and fine roots, with a more or less thick lining of fine grass-stems, coir, or pigs' bristles. This is built within a more or less large and irregular cup of moss and coarse grasses, and which more or less fills up the cavity or hollow in which the nest is placed. The depth of the inner cup is about 2 inches, with a diameter of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The outer dimensions of one nest are 3 inches in depth and $4 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.

35. Rhyacornis fuliginosa (Vig.).

This bird is abundant in N.W. Fohkien, and breeds in April and May. The nest is placed in a variety of situations. We have found it on ledges of rocks, on the banks of torrents, once on a tree-stump on the bank of a stream, under the thatch or on the top of the supporting parts of sheds by streams, and a very favourite place is on the piles of the wooden bridges that span the torrents in the mountains. I have seen as many as two nests under one bridge; but

these were deserted as soon as they were finished. The inner part of the nests found about Kuatan is made of coir-fibre and fine grass-stems, with sometimes pigs' bristles added. The outer materials are moss and dried fern-fronds. Dead leaves are also used to make the base of the inner cup. The depth of the egg-cavity varies from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches, and the inner diameter is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The outer measurements are very variable, and depend on the size of the niche or cavity to be filled up.

The full clutch is generally four, but sometimes five eggs. There is much variety in the size and colouring of the spots and their disposition; but the eggs of one clutch are always of the same type. Some clutches are so thickly speckled with pale reddish brown that the pale green ground-colour is almost concealed; while others are sparsely spotted with burnt-sienna and violet, over violet underlying spots. The eggs of one of my clutches of the former type have a dark cap of confluent spots, and those of one of the lightly-spotted kind have a thick dark ring round the large end. In all the eggs that I have, however, the large end is more thickly spotted than the rest of the egg.

The shape of the eggs is purely ovate in nearly every clutch; but those of one of my clutches have a much rounded apex. Forty eggs average $0{\cdot}78 \times 0{\cdot}58$ inch; they range from 0·75 to 0·81 inch in length, and from 0·56 to 0·59 inch in breadth.

36. Erithacus sibilans (Swinhoe).

This bird, which we have not yet found at Foochow, passes N.W. Fohkien on migration. We have four examples from Kuatun, dated April and October.

37. Phylloscopus borealis (Blasius).

We have Kuatun examples dated May and September.

38. Phylloscopus tenellipes Swinhoe.

One male was shot near Kuatun during the last trip on the 20th April. Total length 5·10 inches: upper mandible and apical half of lower mandible blackish; sides of upper mandible and base of lower mandible pink; legs pale pink.

39. Phylloscopus affinis Tickell.

Oreopneuste affinis Dav. et Oust., Ois. de la Chine, no. 386.

Found on the grasslands above Kuatun (alt. 4500 to 5500 feet), where it no doubt breeds. We have specimens dated April, May, June, and October. Only one was shot on the last trip: it is a female, length 4·35 inches; "*legs* brownish green."

40. Phylloscopus coronatus (Temm.).

Five examples were shot in April at Kuatun during the last expedition. Others had been previously obtained there by our collectors, also in April.

41. Phylloscopus trochiloides (Sundev.).

We have a large series of this bird from Kuatun. Twenty-two in my collection are of the larger and darker form, wing 2·25 to 2·48 inches (two specimens measured in the flesh are 4·80 inches in total length); seven are small, wing from 1·98 (♀) to 2·20 (♂) inches (three measured in the flesh vary in total length from 4·05 to 4·40 inches). Five of the latter birds, three males and two females, differ from the larger birds in being of a brighter and lighter green above, with more yellow on the throat. The head is also of a lighter and brighter green and yellow, and the bill is smaller. One of these has a whitish spot on the outer rectrices.

This Warbler appears to be a resident species in Fohkien, as we shot one in December at Ching Feng Ling, and I have one that was obtained in Central Fohkien on the 21st November. It is very abundant in the mountains of N.W. Fohkien during the breeding-season. During our stay at Kuatun we met it constantly; it was in flocks during the first half of April, and sang loudly whenever the weather was fine. The song, as noted down by me at the time, consists of nine shrill notes, "chi-chi-chi, chi-chi-chi, chi-chi-chi."

Owing probably to our ignorance of the bird's breeding-habits, we obtained only one nest, which was found on the 9th of May in the high forest on Mount David. It was placed on the moss-covered trunk of a tree about 5 feet from the

ground. The female was sitting and was rather shy, darting out as soon as the nest was approached, and flying some distance away, but soon returning to the close neighbourhood of the nest. After some time Wang Wang managed to shoot her. This bird is of the smaller and brighter form of *P. trochiloides*, which I then took to be distinct from the large and dark birds, but which Mr. Ogilvie Grant considers to be simply *P. trochiloides*. The nest is made of two kinds of moss and a little coarse grass. It is domed, with the aperture in front near the top, some of the fine long moss of which the nest is composed exteriorly hanging in front like a beard. There is one feather inside, but no lining. The total length, hanging moss excluded, is 5 inches; the width is about 3 inches, and the depth from front to back is 3 inches. The aperture is $\frac{9}{10} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$ inch; the depth from the entrance to the inner wall is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches; the diameter of the egg-cavity 2 inches, with a depth of something under 1 inch. This nest contained three white eggs, somewhat incubated, and another, no doubt a Cuckoo's egg, which was lying crosswise in front of the other eggs. Of the three original eggs, one is very broad and almost purely oval, narrowing much at the extremities; the other two are ovate. They are pure white, the texture being fine, and they have a decided gloss. They measure $0{\cdot}56 \times 0{\cdot}44$, $0{\cdot}55 \times 0{\cdot}45$, and $0{\cdot}52 \times 0{\cdot}45$ inch. The Cuckoo's egg is of long and nearly oval shape, the large end still more blunted than the apex, which is also very much rounded. It is white, not quite so glossy as the other eggs, and is sparsely marked, chiefly about the larger end, with small specks of dark brown. It measures $0{\cdot}85 \times 0{\cdot}55$ inch. I do not know to what Cuckoo it may belong. There was one strange bird, a Cuckoo probably, frequenting these woods, which we were unable to secure, and which I did not even see, and *Cuculus intermedius* was common just below the high forest. I see that Mr. Davidson found eggs of *C. poliocephalus* in nests of *Acanthopneuste occipitalis* and *Phylloscopus humii* (Ibis, 1898, p. 18). There was another nest, resembling the one just described, in a neighbouring tree, but it was an old one.

The only other note that I have on the breeding of *P. trochiloides* is unfortunately of very little use. I was going down from the grasslands to the valley of Upper Kuatun on the 16th May, when I noticed, in a bamboo-plantation near a tea-field, a *P. trochiloides* whose behaviour showed that it had a nest in the vicinity. As I had no time to watch it I left Wang Wang there, telling him to try and find the nest. When he came home he told me that he had found the nest, but, as it contained young too small to preserve, he had left it alone. When, two days later, he returned to it, the nest had been destroyed. This nest, it appears, was on the ground, between two stones under a tea-bush.

42. Phylloscopus superciliosus (Gm.).

Kuatun examples dated April, May, and September.

43. Phylloscopus proregulus (Pall.).

Kuatun skins are dated April, May, and September. This and the preceding species no doubt winter in N.W. Fohkien.

44. Lusciniola schwarzi (Radde).

One example shot near Kuatun in autumn, 1896.

45. Acrocephalus agricola (Jerd.).

A pair was shot in a marshy hollow on the grasslands above Kuatun (alt. about 4500 feet) on the 19th May, 1897. I went over the same ground this year, but did not see any more.

46. Tribura russula (Slater).

This bird is not uncommon on the grasslands above Kuatun from about 4500 to 6000 feet. I saw three birds of this species on the 15th April last, one of which I shot. This bird, after flying out of the grass, ran along the ground and hopped on to a stone, where I shot it. The other two seen on the same day also flew out of the long grass, making more or less short flights when put up. I believe that a small brown bird seen flying down a grassy hill-slope was also of this species, and on that day I heard a long-continued and loud bird-song, which on being described to one of our native hunters was pronounced by him to be the song of

this Warbler. I noted it down at the time; it was like "chee-chuckee-chuckee-chuckee-chuckee."

The food, as ascertained by dissection, consists of caterpillars, small beetles, and ants. From what I could see of the bird, its habits resembled those of the Grasshopper-Warblers and their allies, rather than the ways of our Chinese Cettias, which are bush-loving birds, seldom or never showing themselves, except on trees or in brushwood.

The ten examples shot on the last expedition differ from those described by the Rev. H. H. Slater in having an absolutely unspotted throat; they all resemble one another and bear a close resemblance to *Homochlamys brevipennis* Verreaux, but the bill and other proportions of this bird are larger, its tail-feathers have a light shaft, and the colour of the sides of the head are different. The soft parts of *Tribura russula* are: iris dark greyish brown; upper mandible and point of lower mandible blackish, sides of upper mandible and lower mandible pink, the lower mandible yellow towards the gape; legs pink. Total length of six, measured in the flesh:—♂. 5·7, 5·8, 5·9 inches; ♀. 5·6, 5·7, 5·9 inches.

47. Cettia canturiens (Swinhoe).

Two were shot at Kuatun on the 19th May, 1897, by our collectors. On the last trip, during a walk over the grass-lands, one of them declared he could hear the bird's song. It must be rare there as a breeding species.

48. Cettia sinensis La Touche.

Examples in breeding-plumage are very white underneath, with the flanks of a much lighter tint than winter birds. Legs flesh-colour; feet darker; claws grey.

This species is common in winter on the lower hills and in the valleys of Fohkien; and also in summer in the valley of Upper Kuatun, about the lower limit of the grass-lands, from 4000 to 5000 feet. Its curious call was constantly heard from the thorny thickets and thick brushwood in that locality, the bird being very difficult to shoot or even see. Mr. Styan has described in 'The Ibis' (1891, p. 341) the song of the Yangtze *Cettia*, which is probably the

same bird as our Fohkien species. The call of our bird is of the same kind, but we syllablized it somewhat differently, making out the calls to resemble the following: "Chēēē-wichee [long pause], chēēē-wichew." Our collectors called it the "Chiwichee." On previous occasions they collected many specimens, both on the Kuatun grassland limit and in another locality, some miles from Kuatun on the Kiangsi frontier, which they said was lower than Kuatun. Young and moulting birds were shot in October 1896.

We obtained three nests during the last trip. Two were found on the 4th May. One of these, Chunkai told me, had been discovered by a native, who, taking it to be a rat's nest, half destroyed it. Chunkai, on rediscovering it, found an egg inside. He explained that the bird, being about to lay, had repaired the nest, laid her egg, and then deserted it! It is more likely that the first finder did not notice that an egg had already been laid. We took this nest on the 8th of May; it was in a tea-field, built in a tea-bush. It had originally been a domed nest, and the remains were a ragged cup of bamboo-leaves wrapped up in moss. We took the second nest on the 10th May. It was in the same plantation, placed in a tea-bush, not far from a bramble-covered brook that bordered a bamboo-plantation. The female was sitting, but a careful manœuvre on our part forced her to fly out in the open and she hid in a tea-plant, when a snapshot secured her without damage. The nest rested between the upright twigs near the top of the plant, and was very loosely fastened to these. It is a rough, domed, oval structure, with side-entrance, made of bamboo-leaves and coarse grass-blades, with a little fine grass and a few feathers (one of these a feather of *Bambusicola thoracica*) as lining. The total outer length of the nest is 5 inches; the outer diameter at the base of the aperture 3 inches; aperture about $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$ inch; egg-cavity about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep; inner diameter a little under 2 inches. There were four eggs, slightly incubated. Another nest, with one incubated and two addled eggs, was brought to me by a native on the 15th May. It is similar to the last, even to the one feather of *B. thoracica*.

The egg-cavity is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep, and the inner diameter about $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch.

The eight eggs collected are of the usual *Cettia* type—chocolate-red, darker about the broad end. One of the four eggs taken with the second nest on the 10th May has a broad and very dark ring round the large end; the other three eggs have this ring less marked, and are faintly freckled all over with a darker tint of chocolate-brown. The texture is rather glossy. The shape is ovate. One egg measures $0{\cdot}71 \times 0{\cdot}51$ inch, and three are $0{\cdot}70 \times 0{\cdot}52$.

49. Cettia brunnescens (Hume).

This little *Cettia* is found on Mt. David about the lower border of the high forest (alt., say, 5500 to 6000 feet) and breeds there. The soft parts of specimens shot in this mountain are: iris dark brown; upper mandible and tip of lower mandible brownish, lower mandible and sides of upper mandible yellow; legs dark yellow; claws grey. The young of *C. sinensis* are curiously like this species, but they can be at once distinguished by their large proportions.

Our collectors found a nest on the 12th May, 1897. It was placed on a small bamboo in very thick bamboo undergrowth, and our men had to shoot the female on the nest at close range, finding it impossible to secure her otherwise. Strange to say, although the nest with its four eggs was blown off the twigs on which it rested, two of the four eggs were found almost uninjured a yard from where the nest had been placed. The nest was no doubt originally domed—the remains consisting of a deep cup, made of coarse grass-blades and bamboo-leaves, with an inner cup of fine grass and a final lining of Pigeon's and "Huamei" feathers, some of which are worked into the grasses of the nest. The depth of the cup is about 2 inches, with a diameter of 2 inches, the outer diameter of the nest being about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The eggs are maroon or reddish chocolate; one of these having a broad dark ring round the large end and indistinct dark markings all over. The shape of the egg is a broad ovate, with sharp apex; while the colour is somewhat duller than

that of eggs of the preceding species, having hardly any gloss. It measures 0·61 × 0·50 inch.

50. Urospiiena squamiceps Swinhoe.

One example of this little Bush-Warbler was shot near Kuatun and brought to me on the 17th April last. Length 4·35 inches.

[To be continued.]

XIV.—*Field-notes on Birds collected in the Philippine Islands in* 1893–6.—Part II. By John Whitehead.

[Continued from p. 111.]

c. Passeres (Part II.).

80. Phylloscopus borealis (Blas.). (Grant, Ibis, 1894, pp. 408, 507; 1895, p. 443; 1896, pp. 113, 464.)

A common migrant from the north, dispersed over the Eastern Archipelago during the winter months. It has been obtained in most of the Philippine Islands, and doubtless occurs in those islands from which it has not yet been recorded.

81. Acrocephalus orientalis (Temm. & Schl.). (Grant, Ibis, 1895, p. 443.)

Of this Chinese winter migrant a specimen was shot in Abra on 15th November. This Reed-Warbler has a very extensive range among the Philippines and Malay Archipelago during its migrations.

82. Locustella fasciolata (Gray). (Grant, Ibis, 1894, p. 408.)

This Grasshopper-Warbler is also a winter migrant to the Philippines, but, owing to its skulking habits, it is seldom observed, and has hitherto been recorded only from Luzon and Marinduque. My specimen was shot in a bamboo-thicket on Monte Arayat in December.

83. Locustella ochotensis (Midd.). (Grant, Ibis, 1895, p. 465.)

Also a winter migrant met with by me on the Baco River,